



CONNECTICUT FIRE MARSHALS ASSOCIATION

To: The CT legislature
Committee on Public safety
And Security

February 14, 2011

Chairs Rep Dargan and Sen. Hartley and the members of the Public safety and Security Committee. Thank you for this opportunity to speak to you today. I am Fire Marshal Kevin Kowalski Chair of the Legislative Committee of the CT Fire Marshals association. I come here today to speak on three proposed bills.

The First bill is AAC The installation of CO detectors in schools. We do support this concept of the installation of this potential life saving tool in school. We have seen the problems and injuries that occur when this colorless odorless gas escapes from an improperly operating oil or gas operated appliance. However we would like to assist this committee in crafting some improvements to this bill that will make it work better. First, Have the detectors installed only in areas that have the possibility to introduce Co into the environment such as in the boiler rooms, just outside of furnace rooms. Installing the units in areas such as in schools that have electric heat would only be an unwarranted cost to the school district. Also include the inspection requirements into the normal annual Smoke / alarm inspections that are normally done by a alarm system certified inspector.

The second bill is AAC 5802 We support the Safety Recommendations from the Thomas Commission about the installation requirements of a energy plant. We have long sought the opportunity to receive training on Technology and will look forward to the assistance of an expert to assist the local Fire Marshal with these specialized facilities.

The Third bill is 6296 AN ACT ADOPTING THE NATIONAL ELECTRICAL CODE, THE INTERNATIONAL PLUMBING CODE, THE INTERNATIONAL MECHANICAL CODE, AND THE INTERNATIONAL FUEL GAS CODE.

We do not support this bill as it especially bypasses the process of code promulgation that this state has used successfully. It would guide the code requirement to only one publisher, The Fire / building code users would not be able to input to the process. Nor would it go for public hearing through the Regulation review process.